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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Tsuruo, et al.	)	Group Art Unit 1631
Appl. No.	:	09/221,931	)	
Filed	:	December 28, 1998	)	
For	:	TELOMERASE INHIBITOR	)	
Examiner	:	Borin, M.	)	

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 4, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-referenced application in view of the Remarks that follow.

REMARKS

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 11 and 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as introducing new matter into claims 11 and 21. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the specification does not teach 10  $\mu$ M as a lower concentration limit.

Applicants respectfully disagree. Examples 4 and 5 of the present specification describe experimental data with cells demonstrating inhibition at 15  $\mu$ M EGCG (see Examples 4 and 5, particularly page 11, last paragraph and page 13, last paragraph. This corresponds well with the in vitro results presented in Figure 2 and described in Example 2. While the Examiner points out that the  $K_i$  value is 100 nM, the  $K_i$  value is an equilibrium constant and represents the concentration where inhibition is about 50%. However, higher concentrations are required in order to obtain complete inhibition. Figure 2 provides a measure of % activity at different concentrations of EGCG including 10  $\mu$ M. It is clear from the concentration point of 10  $\mu$ M